

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-26 (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A method for the detection *in vitro* of the presence of a given, predefined pathological condition in a human ~~mammalian~~ subject, said method comprising:

- (i) providing a sample of blood cells from the subject, wherein said blood cells comprise lymphocytes, macrophages, monocytes or dendritic cells,
- (ii) preparing nucleic acid molecules from the sample, and
- (iii) obtaining a hybridization profile by hybridizing all or part of the nucleic acid molecules so prepared with at least one nucleic acid library ~~in order to obtain a hybridization profile, the nucleic acid library~~ comprising a plurality of nucleic acid molecules specific for differentially spliced ribonucleic acid molecules (RNAs) expressed ~~gene products present~~ in ~~mammalian~~ blood cells from human subjects having the given, predefined pathological condition, wherein expression of the differentially spliced RNAs is characteristic of the given, predefined pathological condition ~~the same species as said subject, and~~ wherein said blood cells from human subjects having the given, predefined pathological condition comprise lymphocytes, macrophages, monocytes, or dendritic cells ~~exposed to or experiencing a pathological condition,~~ the hybridization profile indicating the presence of said given, predefined pathological condition in said subject.

28. Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~according to~~ claim 27, wherein said at least one library is deposited on a support.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~according to~~ claim 27, wherein the nucleic acid molecules prepared from the sample are total or messenger RNA or complementary deoxyribonucleic acid (cDNA) ~~eDNA~~ derived therefrom.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~according to~~ claim 30, wherein the nucleic acid molecules prepared from the sample are amplified.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~according to~~ claim 27, wherein the nucleic acid molecules are labeled.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~according to~~ claim 27, for the detection *in vitro* ~~of wherein the method further comprises determining the stage of progression of, or the site of,~~ said given, predefined pathological condition in said subject.

34-43 (Cancelled)

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein said support is a membrane, a glass plate, or a biochip.

45. (Cancelled)

46. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the pathological condition affects tissues that are distinct from said blood cells.